

Roxbury, Jan. 4, 1874.

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It is 12 o'clock, noon. William has just called, and brought us the sad intelligence of the death of Mrs. Wright, at his home, this morning, at half past 9. Probably he will send you a telegram in the course of to-day. It has been a sad ~~and~~ and unexpected bereavement. On Christmas Eve she was with us, apparently in excellent health, to enter with the grandchildren and our family circles into the festivities of the occasion around our beautiful Christmas tree. As we gave the parting hand to each other that night, little did either of us imagine that it was to be a final parting here. On Saturday afternoon, 28th ult., she went with William to ~~the~~ the Museum to see Warren in a new play, but, though the house was crowded and quite warm, did not take the pre-



caution to remove her outer garments, and  
 so must have got overheated, and thereby  
 rendered susceptible to the attack which soon  
 followed. On Sunday morning she was taken  
 with shiverings, and vomiting soon com-  
 menced, which continued for two or three days  
 before it was checked, the stomach being unable  
 to retain any nourishment. The attack  
 soon assumed the shape of typhoid pneumo-  
 nia, and yesterday her case was pronounced  
 hopeless by the doctor. Her Auburn physi-  
 cian was telegraphed for, and arrived this  
 morning an hour after her departure. Poor  
 Mr. Wright, quite broken down by a recent  
 gastric <sup>fever</sup>, and suffering extremely from a  
 swollen leg, came several days ago, pre-  
 ceded by Mrs. Osborne. I have not yet been  
 to the house, in consequence of the state  
 of the weather and the icy condition of the  
 streets, which in my crippled state, <sup>hands</sup> made  
 it a matter of prudence (as I could be of no  
 use) to remain at home.



I need not say that everything was done for the poor sufferer that affection could devise; and, fortunately, Ellie's excellent nurse was still with her, and able to give nearly all her attention to the dying mother.

It is an exhausted and sorrowing household at Linwood Street. Scarcely any member of it has obtained any sleep for the last three nights, the need of vigilant watching being so urgent, and the prospect of a fatal termination being so gloomy. Poor William has had a very heavy burden to carry, and it will be fortunate indeed if he be not prostrated by sickness.

Typhoid pneumonia has been very prevalent this winter in this vicinity, and very many have fallen victims to it; doubtless ~~opening~~ in great measure, to this open, capricious, ever varying weather, often a change of more than forty degrees in less than twenty hours.



To-morrow morning, Mr. Wright, Mrs. Osborne, and the Auburn physician will go with the remains to Auburn. It deepens the sadness that Ellie, on account of her recent confinement, will not be able to accompany ~~them~~; nor will William or myself.

It will be hazardous for Mrs. Mott to take the winter journey from Philadelphia to Auburn, to be present at the funeral; but she will be very likely to make the attempt, unless extremely feeble.

I am glad to report myself as on the mending hand, with less of inflammation and pain in my knees than I have had for more than a year past. As I have not been out of doors for some time, I cannot tell how walking may affect me; but, as I dread being thrown back, I shall be careful of my steps.

In the New Year, and always,  
Your loving Father.